Welcome to the Dummy Stamps Study Group’s Twenty-Fourth Newsletter

This newsletter is produced quarterly by the United States Stamp Society’s Dummy Stamps Study Group for your information and pleasure. We hope that the information included in this newsletter will be informative, useful and encourage your enjoyment of collecting dummy/test stamps. Our goal is to keep you up-to-date with the latest information available to our group. Questions, comments and articles proposed for publication should be directed to Terry R. Scott, Chairman of the Dummy Stamps Study Group at trs@napanet.net

A Huge Congratulations to Joann & Kurt Lenz for their Single Frame Grand Award won at the A.P.S. StampShow 2011 in Columbus, Ohio

At the recent APS StampShow held August 11-14, 2011 in Columbus, Ohio, fellow Dummy Stamps Study Group members Joann Lenz and her husband Kurt Lenz won the Single Frame Grand Award for their exhibit “U.S. Test Stamps Related to the B.E.P. (ca. 1907-1959).”

Assembling such a fantastic collection of so many seldom seen, first time discoveries and down-right rare test stamps that are in this exhibit has taken several years and lots of searching, scrounging, begging and just being in the right place at the right time. It is fortunate for all of us test stamp collectors to see such an obscure collecting interest such as test stamps rise to worldwide prominence with this exhibit and the Single Frame Grand Award it was awarded. This exhibit has been shown in several shows in slightly different formats and has won awards in the past but this is the cream of the cream. The exhibit will compete in the World Series of Philately Champion of Champions Single Frame Exhibit competition at APS AmeriStamp Expo 2012 in Atlanta, Georgia. Full details can be found in the September 2011 issue of The United States Specialist.

Joann and Kurt have graciously agreed for me to share their fantastic exhibit with you by providing the following links to see each page of this award winning exhibit. The following links will open each of the 16 pages separately and will give you a real thrill to see what they have collected over the years and the fantastic research done to explain each of the items. Enjoy!

Exhibit-Dummy-2011-08-pg01.jpeg
Exhibit-Dummy-2011-08-pg02.jpeg
Exhibit-Dummy-2011-08-pg03.jpeg

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Congratulations to United States Stamp Society Members for garnering awards at the A.P.S. StampShow 2011 in Columbus, Ohio

by Terry R. Scott

Knowing full well that this newsletter is supposed to focus on test/dummy stamp subjects, I take editorial liberty to venture somewhat away from these subjects with this article.

I wish to congratulate The United States Specialist Editor Leonard Piszkiewicz, recipient of the A.P.S. Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research for 2011; USSS President Nicholas Lombardi, Grand Award winner in the Open Competition (holding Grand Award trophy); Joann and Kurt Lenz, Grand Award winners in the Single Frame Competition. They are shown in the photograph below. Full details can be found in the September 2011 issue of The United States Specialist. I urge you to check this article out as well as the other fine information included in that issue.

I wish to share this information as all of these individuals have in some way helped me, and all of us, with test stamp collecting. Leonard Piszkiewicz is very helpful with various articles I attempt to get written and published in The United States Specialist. Nick Lombardi has been very supportive with the various ideas regarding my attempts to get information out about test stamp collecting, and Joann and Kurt Lenz have always been there for me whenever asked about helping with an article, finding information about test stamps and just being there when you need someone to chat with. Joann is usually my proof reader for this newsletter and for the various articles I have submitted for publication to Leonard Piszkiewicz to be included in The United States Specialist. For all of the things that all of you do, I thank you and the Dummy Stamps Study Group thanks you.

The following photo is from the September 2011 issue of The United States Specialist and shows “The Gang of Four” in their glory. I wish to thank Leonard Piszkiewicz for permission to reproduce the photo in this newsletter.

2012 Scott Specialized Catalogue New Listings
by Terry R. Scott

The new 2012 Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers was released in early October. There are several value changes and several new listings. Many of these changes are the result of the meeting with James Kloetzel, Editor Emeritus of Scott Catalogues at the WESTPEX stamp show in San Francisco, CA in April (see Dummy News and Views, Issue Number 23, Spring 2011). Other revisions came from several test/dummy collectors throughout the year, many of them DSSG members. Thank you for your participation and suggestions to the Scott editors. This helps keep the information current and it is appreciated by all.

Some of the new/revised listings follow. Thanks to John L. Larson for this summary of changes/additions.

- TD101B, C, D, E (green, blue, brown, pink) Nebraska / Eureka sheet stamps.
- TD122a blank coil, uncoated paper, shiny gum.
- TD140 FTPO (gray-black) coil.
- TDB30C blank cover booklet with 2 blue, numbered, rectangle panes of 10.
- TDB36 Jack London (matched numbers) booklet.
- TDB36 Jack London (mis-matched numbers) booklet.

In the dummy booklet section, there are several new dummy booklets listed and some minor corrections. To clarify here are the complete listings for all Daffodil booklets:

- TDB39 two unnumbered panes of 10.
- TDB40 four numbered panes of 10.
- TDB40B two numbered panes of 10.
- TDB41 four unnumbered panes of 10, LRM left.
- TDB42 four unnumbered panes of 10, LRM right.
- TDB43 two wide, unnumbered panes of 10, no inside printing.
- TDB43b two wide, unnumbered panes of 10, inside printing.
- TDB44 one mini, unnumbered pane of 8.
- TDB45 two unnumbered panes of 20.

The following are newly listed FTPO dummy booklets and sheetlets.

- TDB46 FTPO with panes of (8, 10, 8, 8).
- TDB47 FTPO with blue "Front Cover" and pane of 8.
- TDB48 FTPO with red "Front Cover" and pane of 8.
- TDB91 FTPO (Avery) blue ATM sheetlet of 18.
- TDB92 FTPO (Ashton-Potter) blue ATM sheetlet of 18.

Regarding the newly reported Jack London, Daffodil and FOR TESTING PURPOSES ONLY dummy booklets, several discovery articles are planned for Linn’s Stamp News. John L. Larson will author these articles. He may be reached at: j_larson1@mac.com if you have questions or comments.

More detailed information will be forthcoming in future issues of The United States Specialist, the monthly magazine of the United States Stamp Society.

Following, I will illustrate a few of the new items but please refer to the 2012 Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers for more detailed listings and additional information.

A Shortened Version of Dummy News and Views This Time

Due to the fact that this issue of the newsletter is way behind schedule I have chosen to leave out the usual recent auction results and other articles until the next issue. I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving.

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TDB47 Outside Covers (top) with “FRONT COVER” in Blue and Inside with Pane of 8.
Note: The Illustration of the TDB47 Outside Cover is not inverted.

TDB48 Outside Covers (top) with “FRONT COVER” in Red and Inside with Pane of 8.
The above illustrations of TDB47 and TDB48 are courtesy of Michael O. Perry and John L. Larson.

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The above illustration of TDB 45 is courtesy of Michael O. Perry and John L. Larson.

NEW DISCOVERY!

This Daffodil dummy booklet contains two booklet panes of 20 stamps each; both of the panes were folded three times in order to fit in the covers. Half of the horizontal perforations appear to be mislocated vertically, but that is because the printing cylinder was laid out to print four rows of booklet panes that each contained ten stamps; those panes were intended for booklets that had two or four panes. The left pane shown here represents the bottom pane in this new Daffodil booklet; the “missing” half stamps at the bottom of the pane can be seen at the top of the second (top) pane in the booklet. The numbers on the cover range from 1 to 12.